

Mak, Chanda (ATG)

From: SR Kumar <sareshkumar@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 17, 2022 2:57 PM
To: comments@utc.wa.gov; ATG WWW E-mail Public Counsel
Subject: PSE Proposed Rate Increases

Importance: High

[EXTERNAL]

Dockets UE-220066 and UG-220067

I read with interest the proposed rate increases by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). The rate increases for 2023 - 13.59% for electric and 12.98% for natural gas is preposterous. The reasons given by PSE:

Continue to provide safe and reliable energy service - What is going to change that will require additional resources and funding?

Capital and operating investments made on behalf of customers - Why were these done? Were these approved by customers? Were the customers told that by doing these investments, they will see a significant rate hike?

Recover increased operating cost - Does these costs relate to substantial increase in pay for employees and management?

Increase return on equity - Is current 9.4% return not enough? I will say that is a very high yield and very much comparable to market.

The rate increases for 2024 and 2025 seems reasonable.

Thank you.

Sarwesh Kumar